08

FULL METAL

フルメタルパニック!Σ

FULL METAL PANIC! SIGMA

STORY SHOUJI GATOU COMIC HIROSHI UEDA ORIGINAL CHARACTER DESIGN SHIKIDOUJI

Black Technology. A forbidden knowledge born into a select few, thereby made capable of producing exotic weaponry that could drastically alter the balance of power on Earth. To halt the proliferation of this terrifying power, a secret military organization armed with the latest cutting-edge technology-MITHRIL, stands as the guardians of peace in a chaotic era still dominated by the hostilities of the ongoing Cold War.

原作 賀東招二 作画 上田宏 キャラクター原案 四季童子

Kadokawa Comics Dragon Jr.

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KCJ85-8

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本物の銃火器を使用したASによる〈闇バトル〉で圧倒的な性能差をはねのけM9に勝利した宗介。そこでついに宗介は、敵の操縦士から探し求めていた〈アマルガム〉の情報を手に入れる!! その情報を手掛りに東京で一戦を交えた〈アマルガム〉メンバーのクラマに迫ろうとするが――!? 宗介が自分自身を問い直し、苦悩と葛藤の日々を送る姿を描く『燃えるワン・マン・フォース』編決着!

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With the unexpected arrival of mysterious transfer student Sousuke Sagara to Jindai High School, honor student Kaname Chidori's tranquil existence is about to be turned upside down. Unbeknownst to Chidori, the naive, military-minded Sagara is actually an operative with MITHRIL assigned to protect her, and the potent secrets she unknowingly carries, from those who wish to exploit her knowledge for military gain.

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フルメタル・パニック！シグマ

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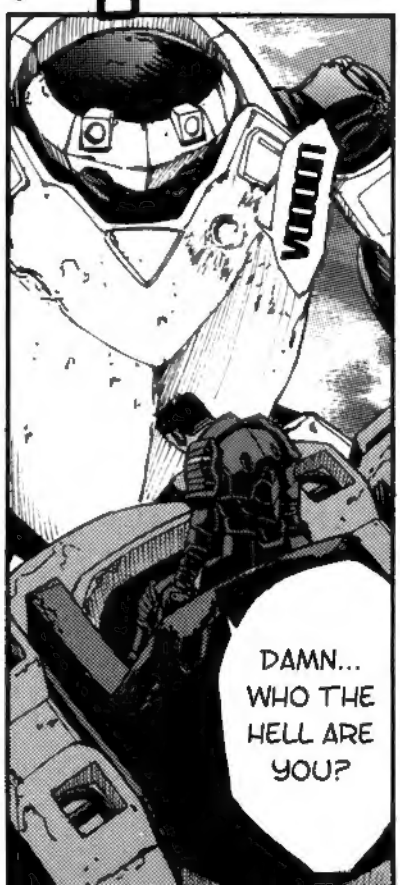
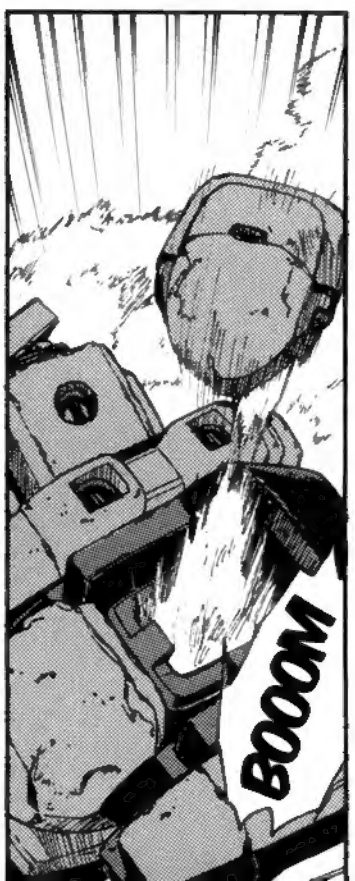
FULL METAL PANIC! SIGMA 08

MISSION 032 COST OF THE HESITATION

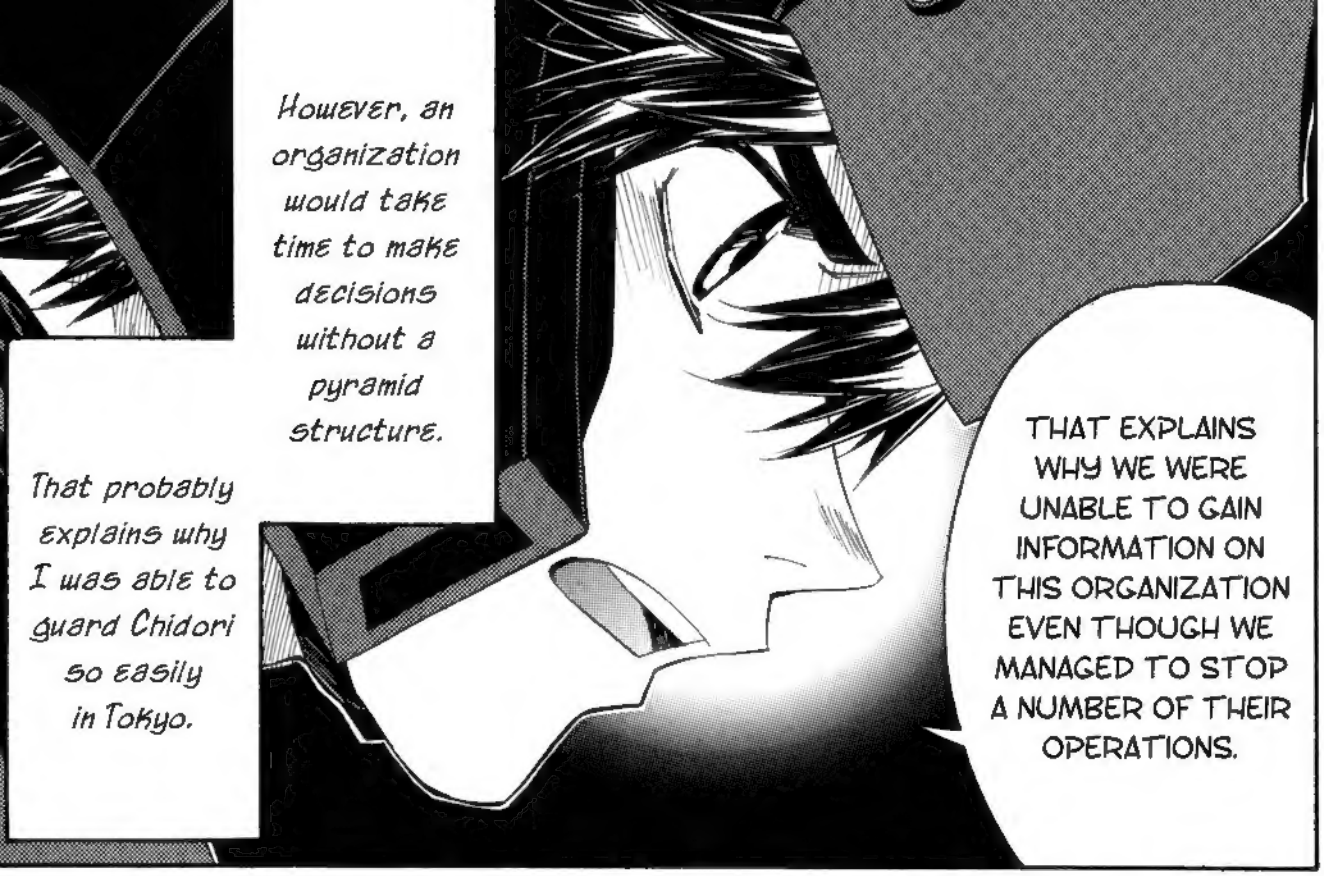
I'M THE ONE ASKING THE QUES-TIONS.
TELL ME ABOUT YOUR BACKGROUND AND THE MG.

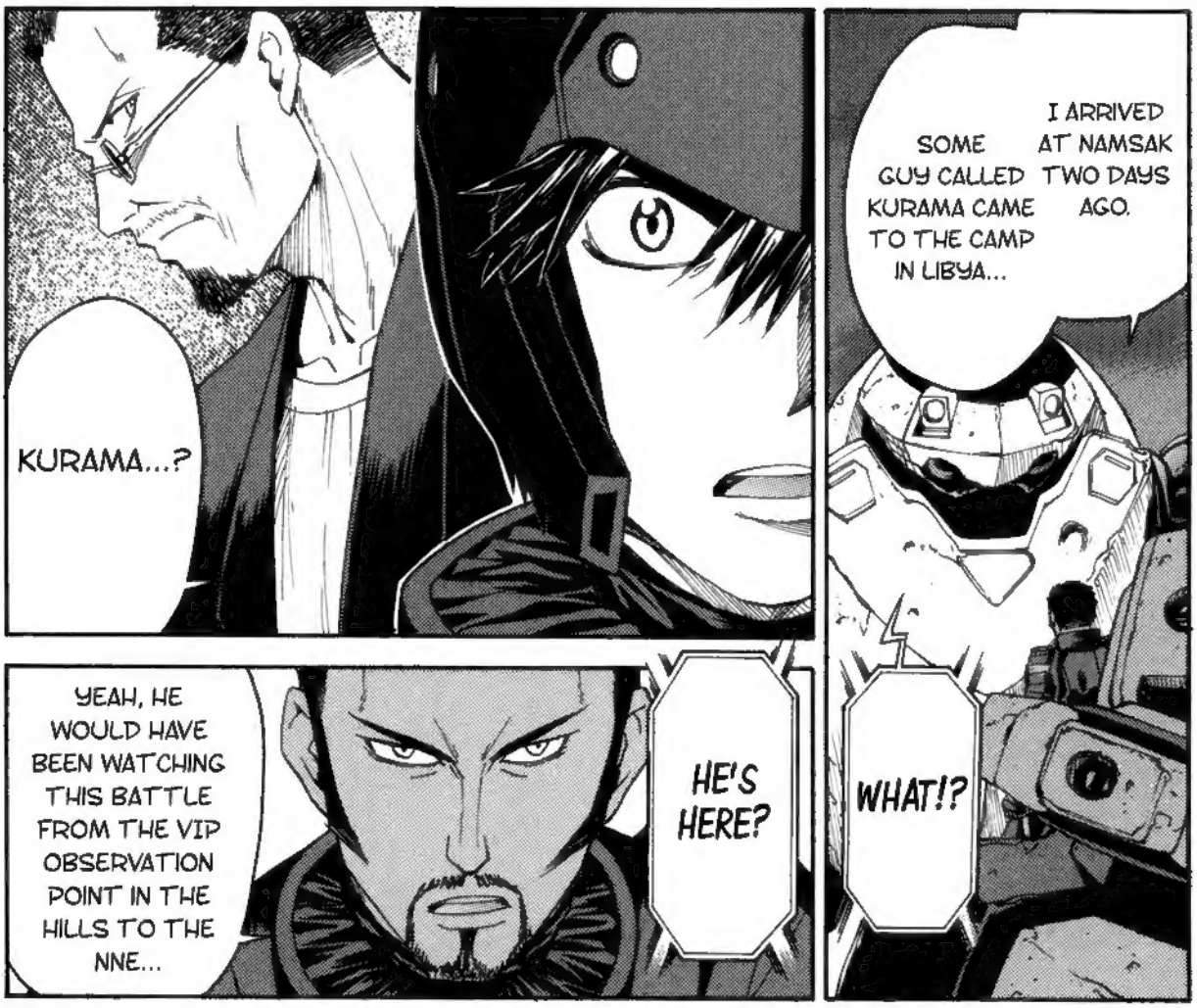

DAMN... WHO THE HELL ARE YOU?


BOOOM

ARE YOU A MEMBER OF AMALGAM?
WERE YOU ORIGINALLY WITH MITHRIL?
SOMETHING LIKE THAT,
THOUGH NOT FOR MUCH LONGER
AS I'LL PROBABLY GET FIRED OR EXECUTED AFTER THIS.
NO WONDER WHY YOU KNEW ABOUT THE MG.
I'M SERGEANT GEORGE LUVRUCK,
FORMER SRT FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN DIVISION.
YEAH...
I USED TO BE SRT FOR THE WEST PACIFIC DIVISION.
WHAT ABOUT YOURSELF?

AEGEAN SEA HQ WAS ATTACKED WHILE I WAS OUT ON A MISSION IN BUSQUE WITH THE MG.
THEY HAD ALREADY OCCUPIED THE BASE WHEN WE RETURNED, SO WE HAD NO OTHER CHOICE BUT TO SURRENDER.
I WAS PICKED UP ON THE CONDITION THAT I PROVIDE INTEL ON FUNCTIONALITY AND COMBAT CAPABILITIES OF THE MG AS WELL AS TO ASSIST WITH THEIR EXERCISES.
WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR DIVISION?
WHY ARE YOU PILOTING AN MG UNDER AMALGAM?
WHERE ARE AMALGAM BASED?
FROM WHAT I KNOW, BUCHAREST, CORSICA, LIBYA, CRIMEA... BUT ALL OF THEM WERE JUST BASIC FACILITIES.
IT IS HIGHLY LIKELY THAT THEIR CHAIN OF COMMAND IS WIDELY DISPERSED.
I SEE, THE SURVIVAL RATE WOULD BE HIGH FOR SUCH AN ORGANIZATION.
EVEN IF ONE PLACE IS DESTROYED, ANOTHER WILL TAKE OVER, SO IT WOULD BE VERY DIFFICULT TO ELIMINATE.


However, an organization would take time to make decisions without a pyramid structure.
That probably explains why I was able to guard Chidori so easily in Tokyo.
THAT EXPLAINS WHY WE WERE UNABLE TO GAIN INFORMATION ON THIS ORGANIZATION EVEN THOUGH WE MANAGED TO STOP A NUMBER OF THEIR OPERATIONS.


KURAMA...?
I ARRIVED AT NAMSAK TWO DAYS AGO.
SOME GUY CALLED KURAMA CAME TO THE CAMP IN LIBYA...
WHAT!?
HE'S HERE?
YEAH, HE WOULD HAVE BEEN WATCHING THIS BATTLE FROM THE VIP OBSERVATION POINT IN THE HILLS TO THE NNE...

WAIT.
kwooon
A HELI-COPTER IS HEADING THIS WAY, HIDE.
HEY!! YOU DON'T HAVE ANY FIREARMS!?
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO!?
VOOON...
NOT A PROBLEM.

BANG
BANG
BANG
BANG
WHAT IS HE PLANNING TO DO?
WIRE FROM THE WIREGUN...
whip
ドーン
ドーン

!!
!!ホホホホー
ガ!!

I HAVE MANY QUESTIONS TO ASK BUT I'M OUT OF TIME.
YOU ARE FREE TO GO.
...WHAT!?
ゴオオ・・
YEAH... SOMEHOW.
YOU ALIVE?

THERE IS NO ONE ELSE.
YOU'LL LET ME GO... WAIT, ARE YOU ALONE!?
WHERE ARE THE OTHERS!?

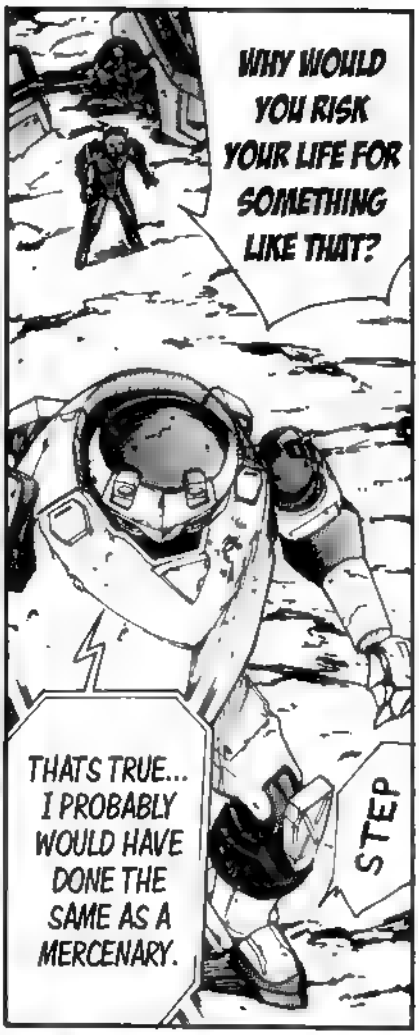
NOT JUST THAT...
YOU MEAN... YOU ARE FIGHTING THIS ALONE TO AVENGE YOUR ALLIES?
I ALSO LOST EVERYONE DURING MY ABSENCE.

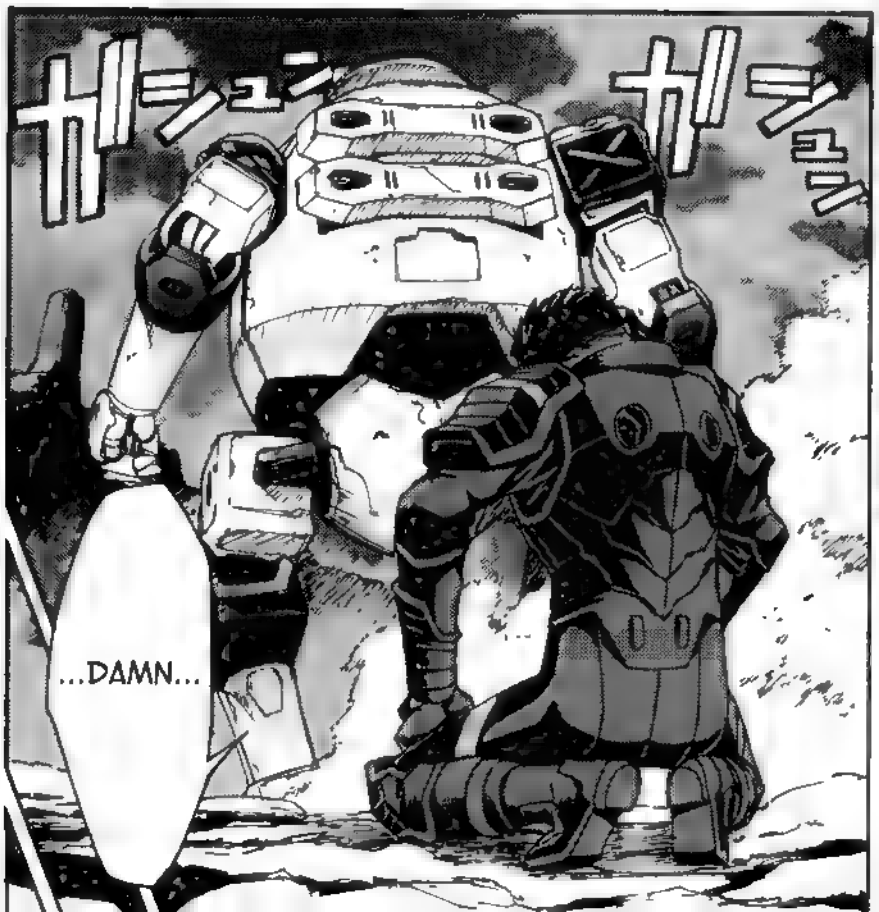
THEY STOLE SOMEONE IMPORTANT TO ME.

I DON'T GET IT!! I THOUGHT WE MERCENARIES JUST STICK TO THE SIDE WITH THE BEST TERMS?

Yes... at that classroom...
I PROMISED TO GET HER BACK.

BUT I'M NOT A MERCENARY ANYMORE...
JUST A MAN.


WHY WOULD YOU RISK YOUR LIFE FOR SOMETHING LIKE THAT?
THAT'S TRUE... I PROBABLY WOULD HAVE DONE THE SAME AS A MERCENARY.
STEP

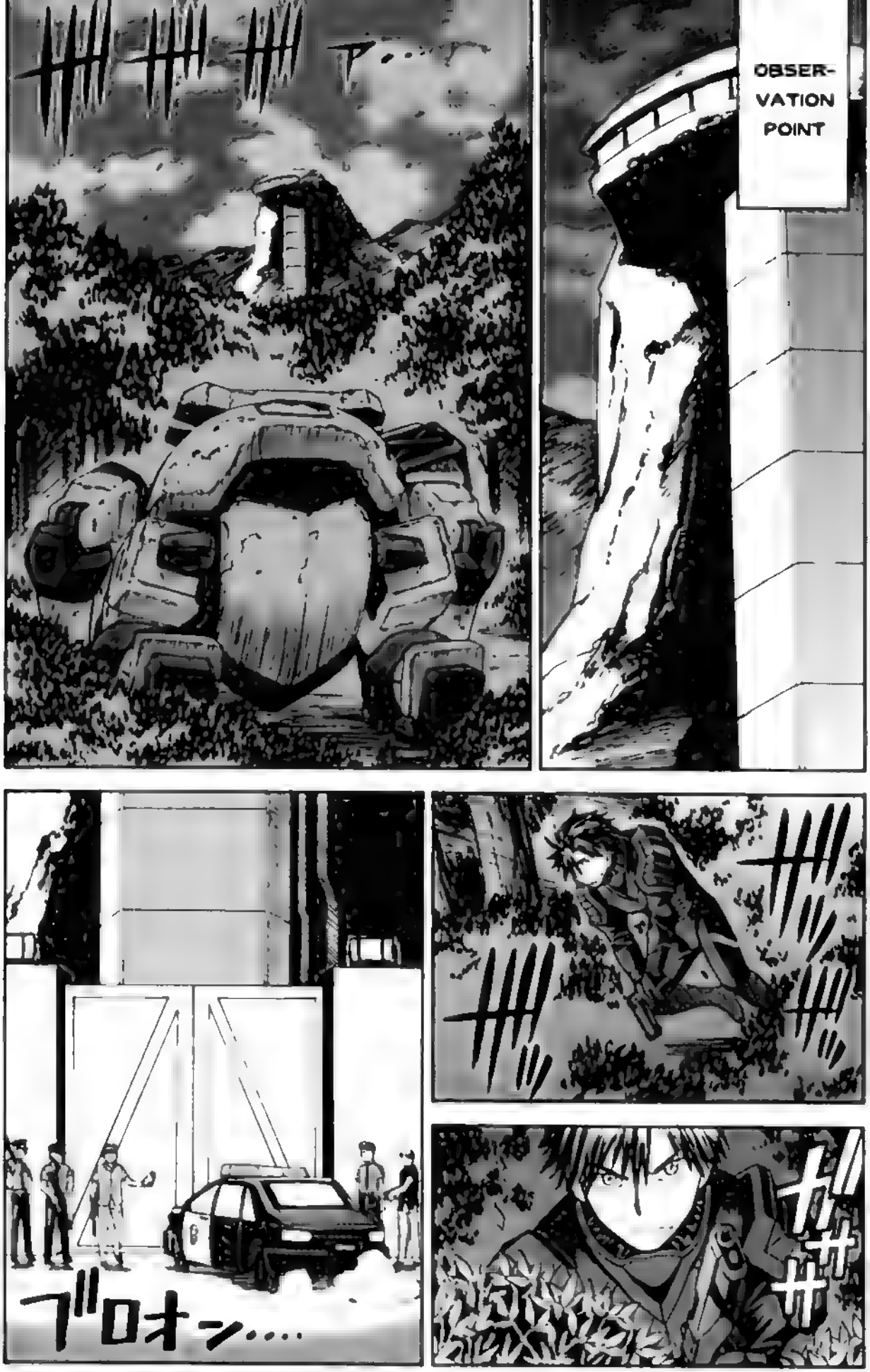

ガシュン
ガシュン
...DAMN...

YOU MEAN...
DYING LIKE THAT IS WHAT A REAL MAN WOULD DO.

GOOD LUCK.
HURRY UP, ASH!
OUTSKIRTS OF MUNAMELA
I'LL GO AND HELP OUT NAMI.
ブロォーン
SO, WHO ARE YOU GUYS?
I THINK IT'S BETTER THAT YOU DON'T KNOW.

IN THE END, YES.
BUT OUR ENCOUNTER WAS JUST A COINCIDENCE.
NEVER MIND THAT.
WERE YOU... DECEIVING US THE WHOLE TIME?
ARE YOU SOME KIND OF SPY?
I COULD TELL RIGHT AWAY THAT HE WAS NO ORDINARY GUY.
THAT CHANGED WHEN SOUSUKE SHOWED UP.
I JUST NEEDED A CONNECTION TO THE ARENA, SO ANY STRONG TEAM WOULD HAVE BEEN FINE.
ACTUALLY, YOUR TEAM SEEMED ... WEAK, SO I WAS PLANNING TO TRY ELSEWHERE.
BUT...

...I STILL DON'T GET IT...
SO WHO ARE YOU GUYS?
BUT I HAD NO IDEA THAT HE HAD THE SAME OBJECTIVE AS US.
WE HAVE BEEN AVOIDING CONFLICT WITH MITHRIL OR AMALGAM.
INTELLIGENCE DIVISION FROM A "CERTAIN COUNTRY."
ブロォーン
I STILL DON'T GET IT, MONSIEUR.


OBSER-
VATION
POINT
ブロオン....

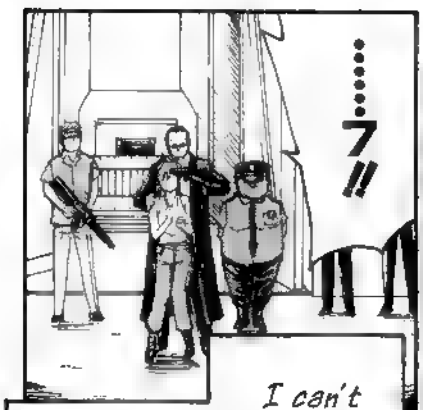
Nami...

There are too many enemies at the gate.
Alternate entry points are...
ガヤヤ
STEP
STEP

...Kurama!!
KYAA!!

CAN YOU SEE THIS, SAGARA!?
I KNOW YOU'RE OUT THERE!! COME OUT AND DROP YOUR WEAPON!!

10
//
I'LL GIVE YOU TEN SECONDS!
カチャ
HYII...
IF YOU DON'T, I'LL KILL THE GIRL!!



……7//

If I decide to comply with Kurama's request, they'd probably shoot me on sight.

I can't take on all the men with the police chief on my own.

This time I don't have anyone to assist like senpai.

……9//

He's a pro...

he'll definitely do what he said.

I also know that he won't hold back anything from the incident at Jindai High school.

……8//

I'm completely stuck now...!!

……6//

I've overcome many situations in the past, but

I'm the only one left to rescue Chidori or take revenge on Amalgam.

I can't die in a place like this,

But... she has no links to Mithril or Amalgam.
5
there is no reason for Nami to die here.
She put herself on the line at the Arena to rebuild her hometown and she is now within reach of that dream!!
She has come so close to that dream...!!
4
There must be a way to keep both of us alive...
Think... Think...

3!!
What if I just let the count continue...
What if that count-down by Kurama is just an act...?
... No... there is no convenient choice like that.
No... he already said that he'd shoot Nami...

I should be able to delay that two second countdown slightly.
カリカリ
……2!!
... I have no other choice but to come out!!
There will probably be an opportunity to get out of this situation.

I CHANGED MY MIND.
Slide

THUD

... Why...
why did he shoot?
Why didn't he count to one?
SKIP
You can't even follow a simple rule...!?
I was going to come out.

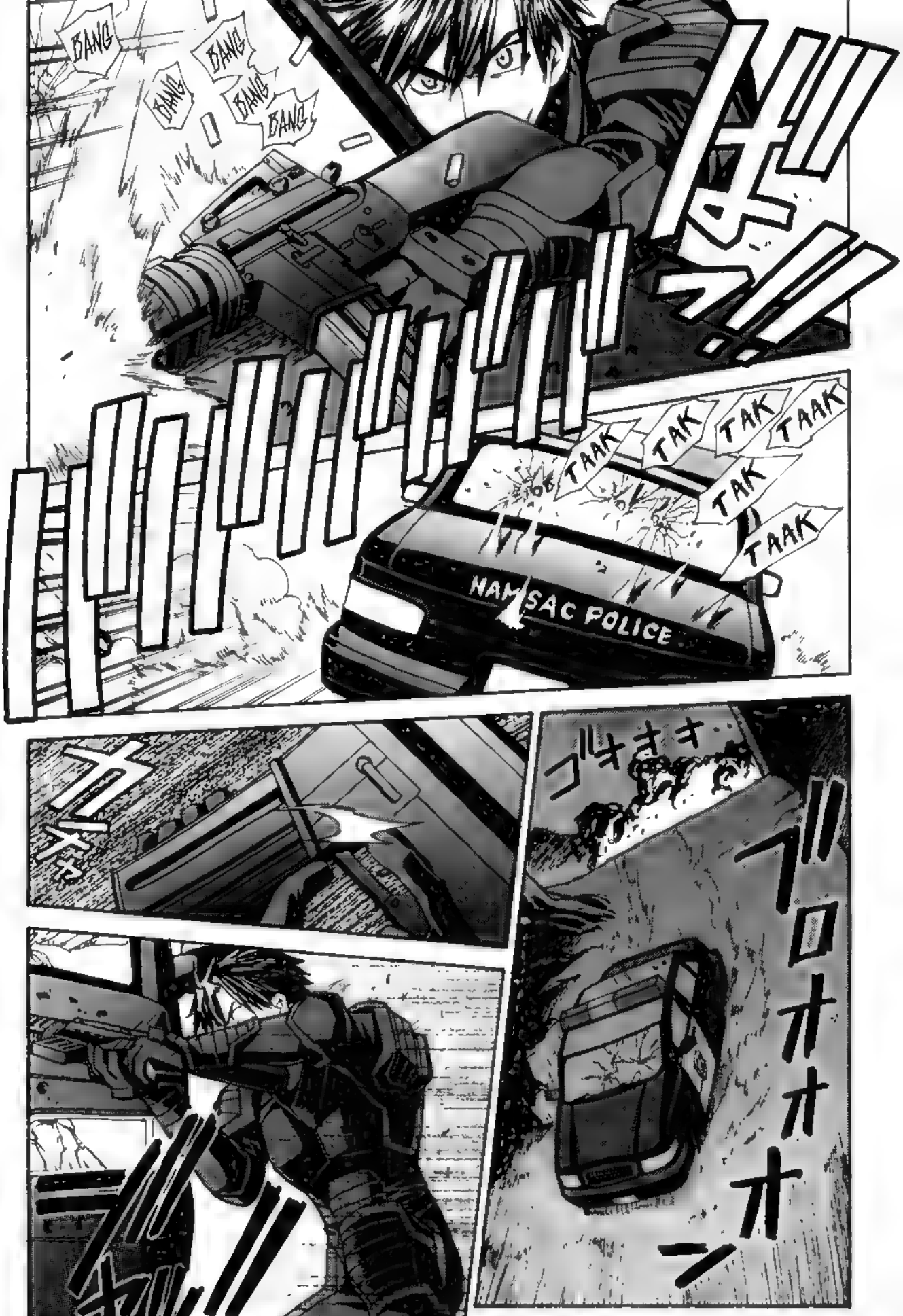
I CAN FEEL YOUR RAGE, SAGARA!!
I KNOW THAT YOU'RE NEARBY!!
WHAT'S WRONG!? IF YOU WANT TO KILL ME,
WHY DON'T YOU COME OUT!?
I KNOW THE WHERE-ABOUTS FOR YOUR GIRL!!
IF YOU'RE NOT COMING OUT, I'M GOING TO GO AND FUCK THAT GIRL,
THEN I'LL KILL HER JUST LIKE THIS ONE!!
... I GUESS YOU'RE NOT COMING OUT...

I'M GOING TO KEEP SHOOTING UNTIL YOU COME OUT, SAGARA!!
IF YOU DON'T HURRY, THE CORPSE IS GOING TO TURN INTO MINCED MEAT!!
... Bastard ...!!

BANG
UUU!!
GWAAA!!
WHAT... WHERE IS IT COMING FROM?
DON'T TELL ME... SAGARA ISN'T ALONE...?

...Who is that...!?
No time for that. This is my chance!!
ka-chak

ビョーン
パパパパ
パパパ
パパパ
The attackers have made the gate area a killzone.
I can't come out any further.
ゴゴゴゴゴ
ブロロロ
DAMN...
NAMSAC POLICE


BANG
BANG
BANG
BANG
BANG
TAAK
TAK
TAK
TAAK
TAK
TAAK
NAM SAC POLICE
ゴキョキョ
ガヤヤ
ヤバ!!

... DAMN IT!!

They escaped... I was so close...
What now...? There's no information here...
STEP
BA!!

STOP, SOUSUKE!!

LEMON...?

WHAT IS ALL THIS, LEMON?
I'LL EXPLAIN LATER.

ゴゴゴゴ
オオ
オ……

きっ
IT…
IT CAN'T BE NAMI… HEY…
NO… NO WAY…
TAP

I let her die.
You bastard!!
Why didn't you save her!?
Why didn't I come out one second earlier?
You're a piece of shit!!
I dragged her into this mess... even though she didn't deserve it.
You just used her!? She was a great girl!!
Uuu... Uuuu...
Rebuilding the school...
in her hometown.
Nami ...
She was going to achieve her dream...

It wasn't her fate to die in a place like this.
Whaaaa aaaaa!!

It's sad...
I killed her.
I'm so sad, yet...

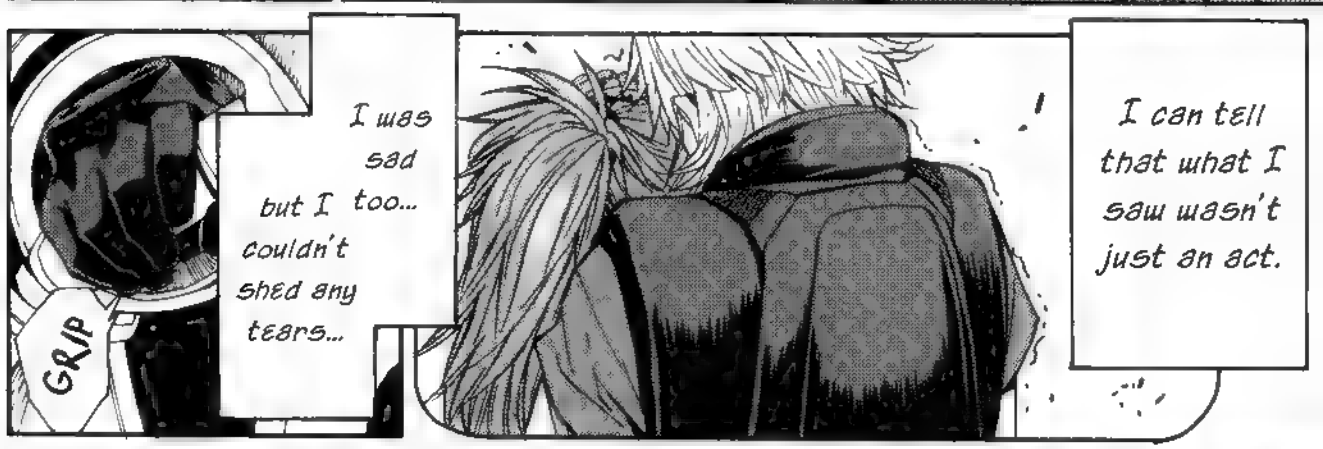
I can't even shed any tears.

MISSION 033 PURSUIT BATTLE

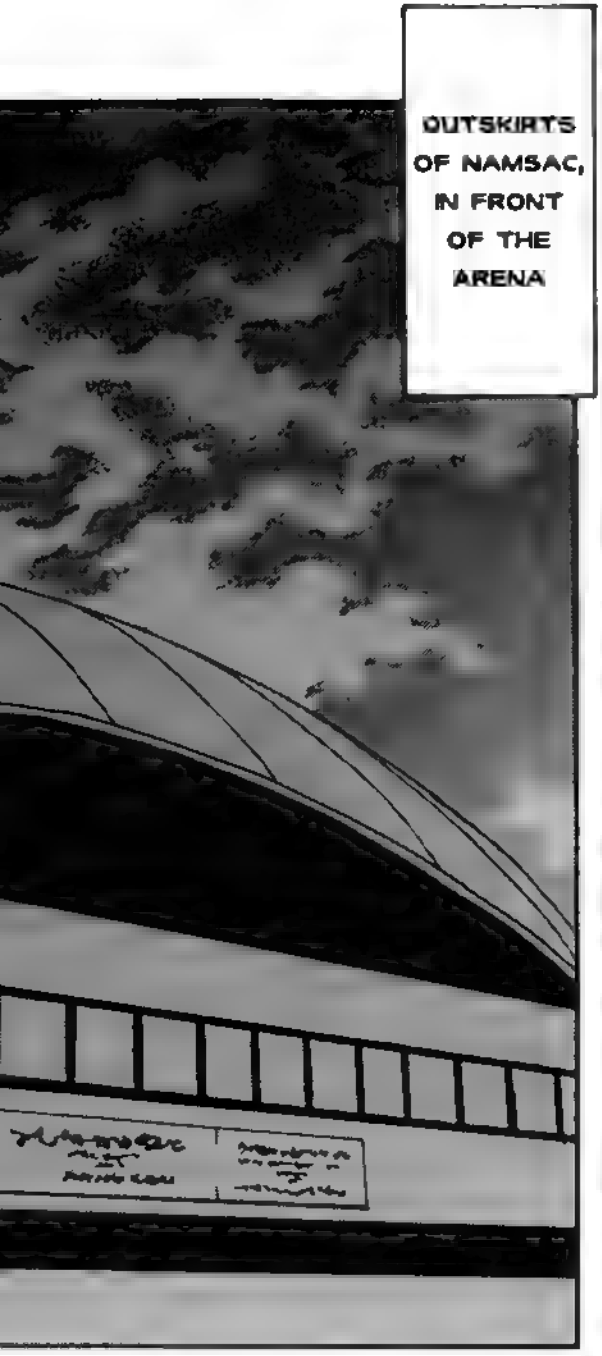
ゴゥン ゴゥン
ゴゥン
YOU'RE GOING TO FOLLOW THEM WITH THIS, SOUSUKE?
YEAH. I CAN TAKE THE SHORTEST ROUTE TO NAMSAC WITH THE A.S.
I don't know what will happen by following Kurama, but,
I can't just stand still.

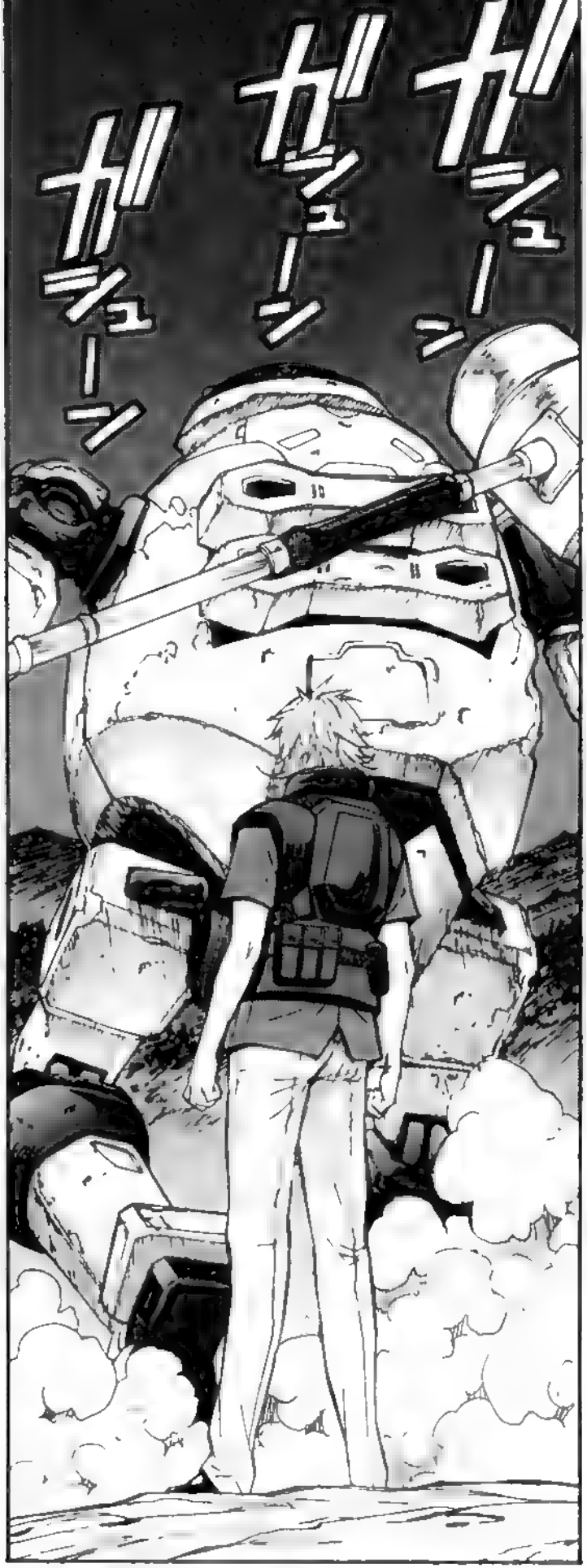
but staying here just thinking about it won't achieve anything.
I'm not sure if I can get information in exchange for Nami's life,
I have no other choice but to follow.
I don't know what else to do.
DAMN...
SOUSUKE, LET ME JUST EXPLAIN.

I KNOW.
Yoon
I AM FROM THE INTELLIGENCE DIVISION...
BUT MEETING YOU, NAMI, AND THE FUN TIMES WERE JUST A COINCIDENCE.


GRIP
I was sad but I too... couldn't shed any tears...
I can tell that what I saw wasn't just an act.

I'M GOING.
I have to go after Kurama and interrogate him for information!!


OUTSKIRTS OF NAMSAC, IN FRONT OF THE ARENA


ガシューン
ガシューン
ガシューン

ARE WE READY?
YES. I'VE ARRANGED A BUNCH OF SKILLED PILOTS.

SOON, A TERRORIST WITH AN A.S. WILL COME TO NAMSAC.

I WOULD LIKE TO ASK YOU GUYS FROM THE ARENA TO ELIMINATE THIS THREAT.

WILL YOU HELP US TO PROTECT THE "GOOD CITIZENS"?

ゴゥン ゴゥン

ゴゥン

CAN I ASK YOU A QUESTION?

SURE.

WE DON'T CARE IF THIS TARGET IS GOOD OR BAD.

WE JUST WANT TO KNOW ABOUT THE REWARDS.

ATTEN-TION!!

$30,000 TO THE ONE THAT MADE THE KILL.
AS WELL AS FIFTY KILOGRAMS OF HEROIN THAT WAS CONFISCATED LAST MONTH.
THIS IS SUPPOSED TO BE "OFFICIALLY" DISPOSED OF BY INCINERATION TOMORROW.
I SEE, I'LL PAY $3,000 REGARDLESS OF THE OUTCOME.
IN ADDITION,
DON'T WORRY. THE IMPORTANT THING IS TO KILL THE TERRORIST.
YOU GUYS KNOW WHAT THIS MEANS, RIGHT?
HEY... THAT'S WORTH AT LEAST A MILLION BUCKS...
THAT SOUNDS RATHER INTERESTING, BUT... DOESN'T THIS SOUND A LITTLE TOO GOOD?

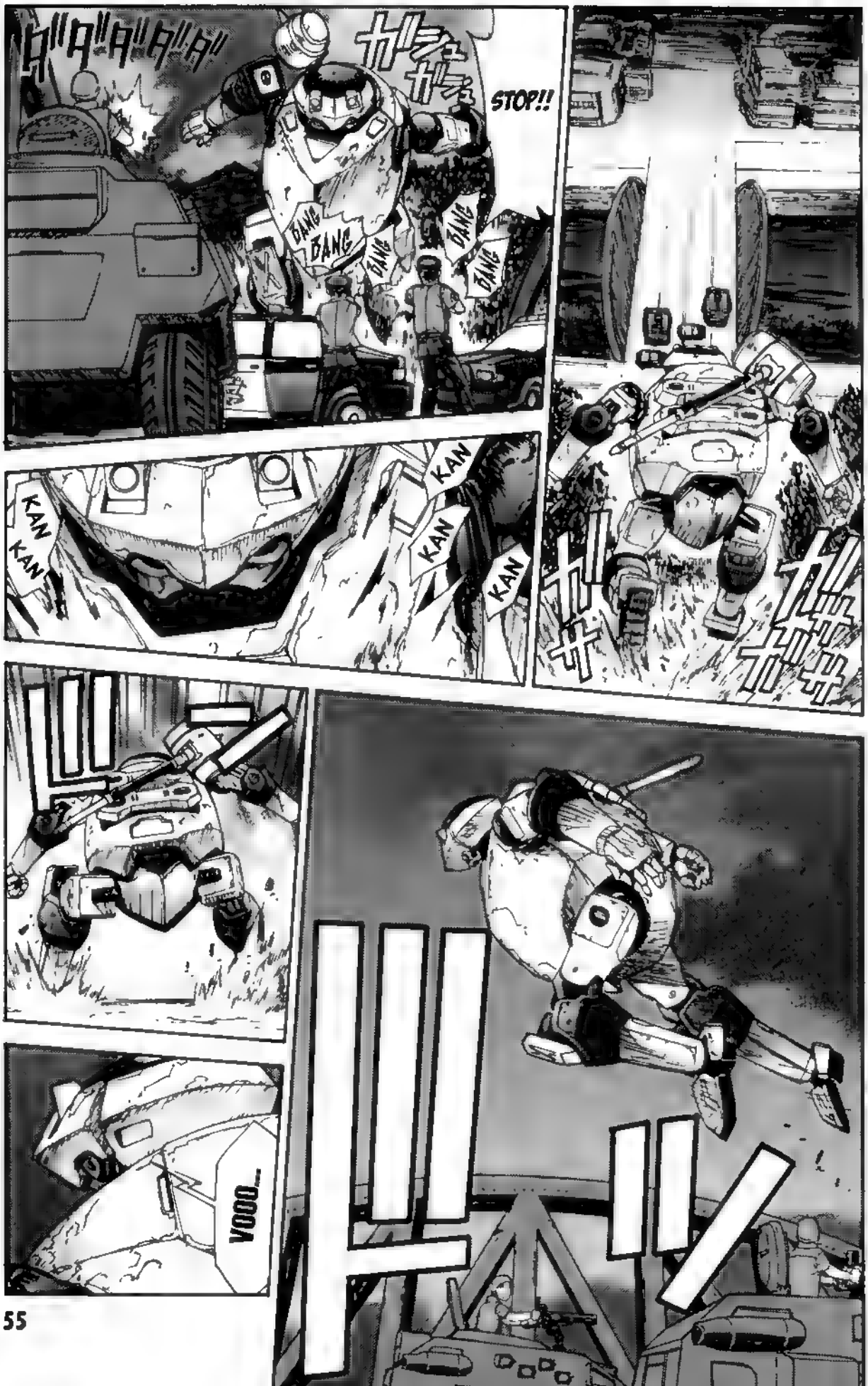
I HAVE ALSO PREPARED FIREARMS. PLEASE USE THEM AT WILL.
NICE... IT'S AN OERLIKON.
MAUSER AND BOFORS AS WELL...
THIS IS GREAT, BUT IF WE FIRE THIS STUFF IN THE CITY, THE "GOOD CITIZENS" WILL GET DONE IN AS WELL.

YOU HEARD, RIGHT? THE POLICE CHIEF SAID "USE THEM AT WILL".

I'M NOT SURE IF THESE PUNKS CAN STOP HIM.
SNAP
LOOKS LIKE WE DON'T HAVE TO WORRY.
I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO DO SOMETHING LIKE THIS.
I JUST HEARD THAT HE IS HEADING SOUTH APPROXI-MATELY FIFTEEN KILOMETERS FROM THE TOWN
LOOKS LIKE HE'S COMING.
ALRIGHT!! LET'S GO AND KILL!!!
ME!! IN THIS SHIT-HOLE!!
DON'T WORRY!? I NEARLY DIED BEFORE BECAUSE OF YOUR USELESS MEN!!
SURELY WE'LL BE FINE THIS TIME.
WE HAVE TEN FULLY EQUIPPED A.S.'S WITH SKILLED PILOTS,
CRUNCH

HERE.
WHERE IS THE FINAL DESTI-NATION?
PREPARE THE WIRELESS.
COUGH
I NEED TO TELL HIM THE FINAL DESTINA-TION.
A FEW KM NORTH OF NAMSAC
ガーン
ガーン
ガーン
ガーン

He hasn't shown up at the airport yet where Lemon's men are monitoring.
Looks like Kurama is still in Namsac.
I know what he is thinking because
He didn't run out of time,
he intends to kill me this time.
Kurama is the same type of person as me.


STOP!!
BANG
BANG
BANG
BANG
BANG
KAN
KAN
KAN
KAN
KAN
VOOO_

ゴオオオ
ガシュン
ガシュン
A.S.'s from the Arena... looks like the Police chief arranged it.
YOU'VE GOT SOME NICE TARGETS.

THAT IDIOT ACTUALLY CAME UNARMED TO DIE.
NOT MUCH FUN TO TARGET THAT SLOW SCRAP...
If I kill that, it's $30,000 and fifty kilograms of heroin...
I'LL TAKE THAT ONE DOWN WITH ONE SHOT...
bzzzzzt
I might have to shoot that thing in the back next, if necessary...
!?

WH...
WHAT THE HELL...!?
He threw that HEAT Hammer on target from that distance!?
Y... YOU'RE KIDDING ME!
G... GET REAL!!!
... WHERE ...

ナイ
……!?
drop
GRAB

HOW MANY MORE ARE THERE?
WH...
EIGHT!! PLEASE STOP!!
DID YOU SEE A BIG WESTERNER WITH SHORT HAIR WEARING A BLACK COAT?
YES. HE WAS AT THE ARENA WITH THE POLICE CHIEF.

So he's here...
did he move from the Arena, or...
zzzzzzzzzz Piiiiii
bzzzt
CAN YOU HEAR ME, SAGARA?
bzzzt
I'M AT THE ARENA.
COME OVER IF YOU WANT.
YOU'RE STILL HERE? YOU'LL REGRET THIS.
CRUNCH

So you're ready?
That's fine.
GRIP
I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THAT.
zzzt...
I am as well.
I'm going to kill you!!

トゥトゥトゥトゥトゥトゥトゥ
ドドド

But... I can still do it.
Unit control and aim compensation are still working to the limit.
If this was the OS on the unit back in Afghanistan, I'd have been dead already.

She modified this OS...
and maintained this Crossbow...
HIS UNIT IS AT ITS LIMIT!!
LET'S DO IT!!
YEAH!!
... DON'T GET IN MY WAY.

DON'T...
GET IN MY WAY!!

DAMN... IT'S ONE TOUGH PIECE OF SCRAP.
HEY, STOP FUCKING AROUND.
ドッドッドッドッ
LOOK, I'LL SHOW YOU HOW TO SHOOT...
BAS-TARD...

NO WAY...
YOU BASTARD... OVER THE BUILDING?

AHHH...
ka-chak
That's five.
ガシュン
ガシュン

Six,
SEVEN...
I
SAID...
DON'T

GET IN MY WAY!!
Eight...
CLICK CLICK CLICK
Okay... it's still functional!!
Nine...

I can see it, the Arena!!
Stop him!!
PANG
Police chief... I don't care about him.
Hurry up and shoot!!
What are you doing!?
BANG
BANG
BANG
My target is just Kurama!!

DIE SAGA-RAAA!!!!

Dao...!?
Bad timing...!!
YOU... BASTARD...
I'LL KILL YOU!!

I'LL GET YOU BACK FOR THAT NOW!!
I STILL OWE YOU FROM LAST TIME!!
beep
beep
beep
DAMN...
Oil pressure is at its limit...
At a time like this... No...
It still moves, trust this unit...
HAHA HAHAHA, TAKE THIS!!!

Trust this unit...

GRAB

ドドド

カン
カン
カン
That's ten.
bashu

AL II...
YOU ARE RELEASED FROM DUTY.

I've come as you wanted,
Kurama!!

MISSION 034 ONLY YOU

ドキドキ

ゴオオオオ

Why am I moving forward?

How much further do I have to go?
How many more deaths...

You've killed at least 100 men.

Even when I reach you,

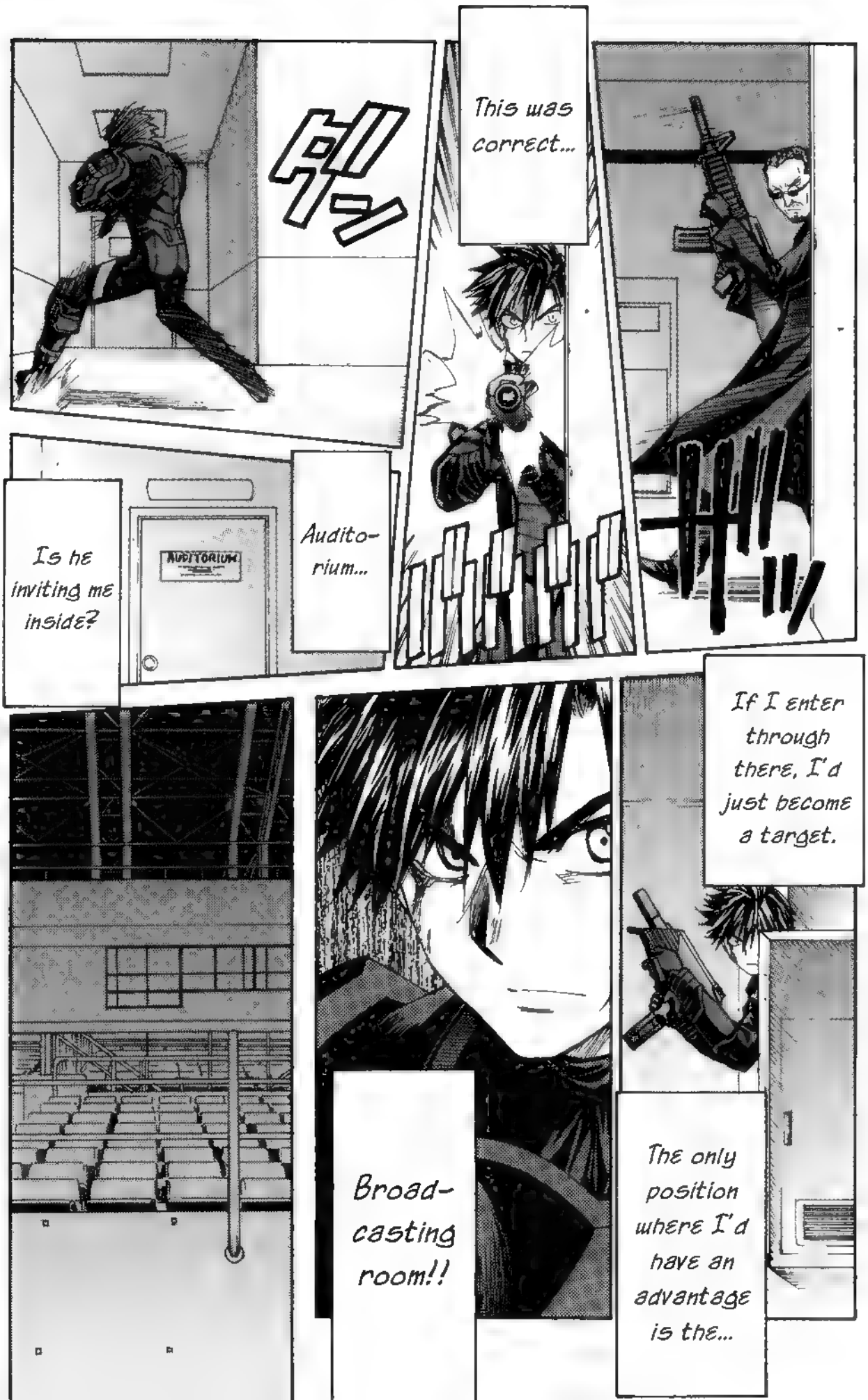
you'd probably reject me with that same look that you gave me back then.

We can no longer go to school together,
and laugh with our classmates.
I know that....
But still...
I have to keep moving on!!

KURAMA
...
DAMN...
KA-CHAK

WHAT A PER-SISTENT BAS-TARD...
ALL THE WAY FROM TOKYO...
TAP
That retreat-ing motion...
Looks like he is inviting me...
The other route is that set of stairs for the staff.

No matter how I think about it, it's a half-and-half chance.
it's like he's doing everything but saying "come this way."
That looks even more suspicious...
TAP
TAP
TAP


ガシッ
This was correct...
Is he inviting me inside?
AUDITORIUM
Auditorium...
If I enter through there, I'd just become a target.
Broadcasting room!!
The only position where I'd have an advantage is the...

STEP
STEP
STEP
STEP
CRUNCH
HE SURE IS ANNOY-ING.
HUH...
STUDIO
Broad-casting room!!
I win, Kurama!!

But what if Kurama's move-ments...
were a trap to confuse me...
Turn
...this door...!!
I WIN, SAGARA SOUSUKE.

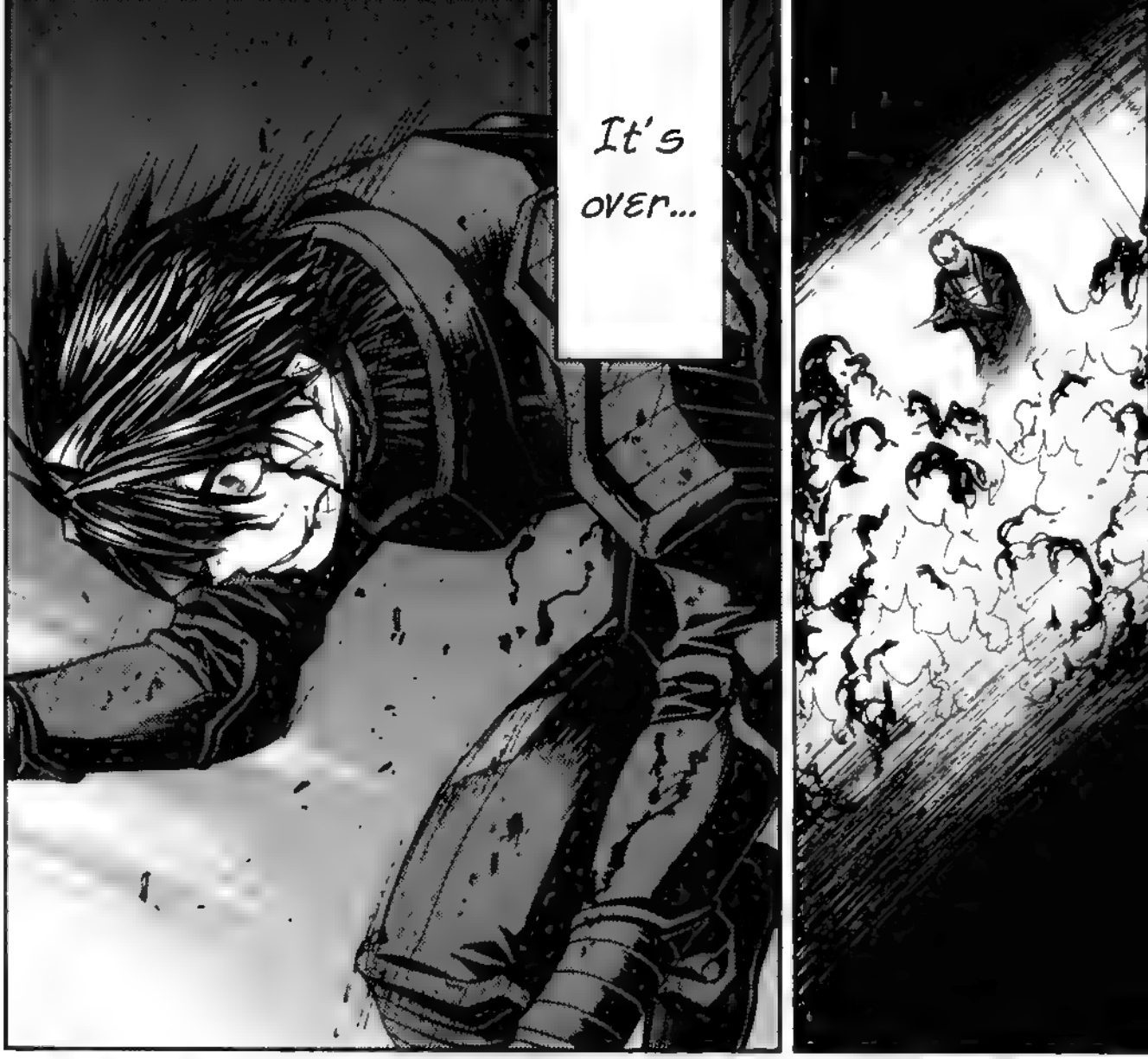
ゴゴゴゴ

ゴゴゴゴ

GUH...

SHIT...
My left arm won't move... Is it broken?
UU...

AH...
GH...


It's over...

But I've got to shoot him in the head just in case.
That shot should be fatal. He'll probably die if I just leave him there.
!
Those guys from before again...
Kachi

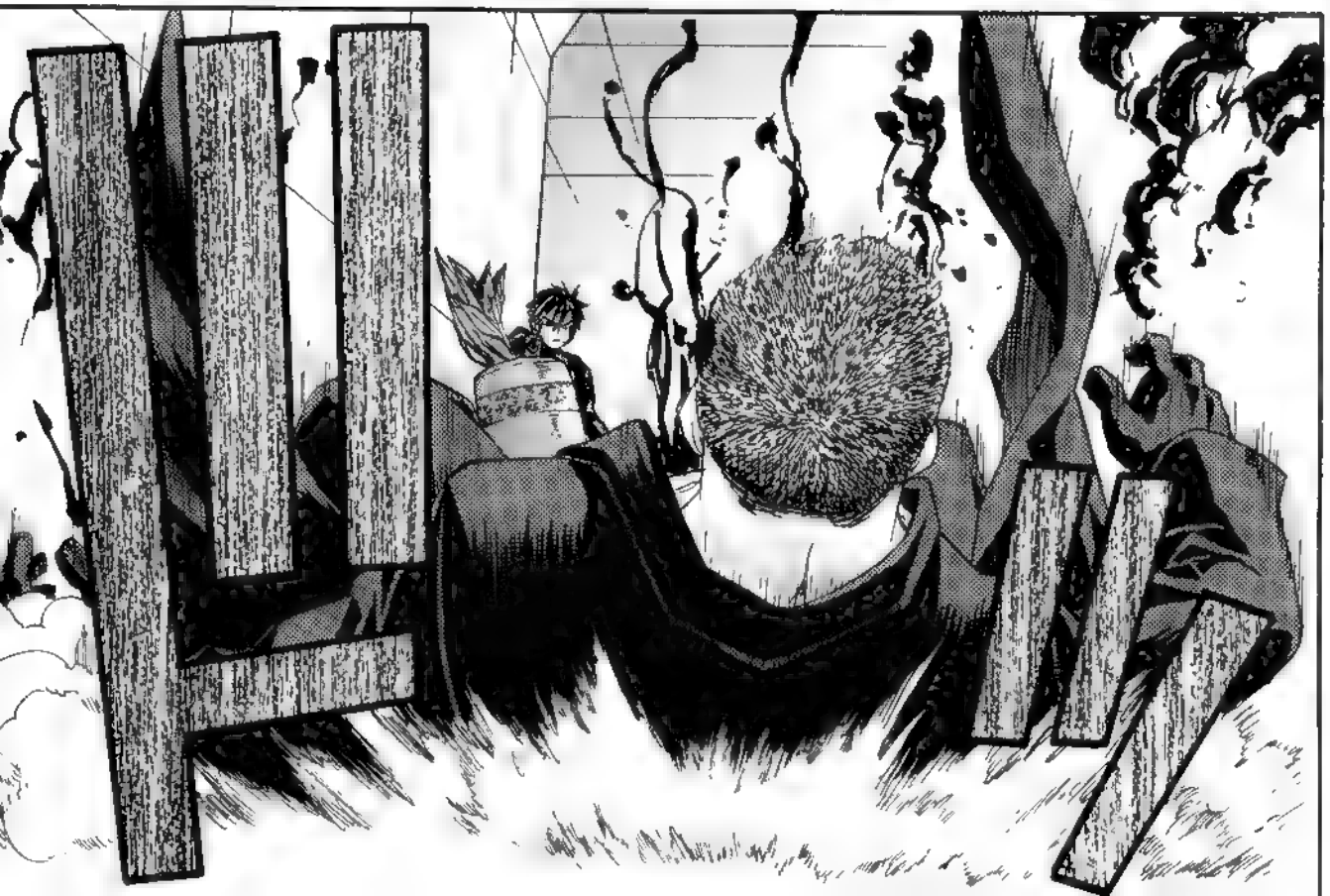
The uncon-
scious
Sagara
can wait
`til later.
THUD
THUD
THUD
!!
THUD
THUD
Medic!!
AHHHH!
KAN
Throw
Stab

KON
KON
SHIT...
Oh well, I'll let it pass if I can kill Sagara.
Ghaa!
Gwaa!
Ah...
Annoying bunch...
They've gotten in my way twice now.

He moved!? With that injury and while bleeding, too!?

Where does he get such strength...

ガン!!



HAH...
HAH...
HAH...
HAH...
HAH...
HAH...
HAH...
HAH...
I'm going to die soon...
But... before that...

...TELL ME...
WHERE... IS... CHIDORI?
HAH...
HAH...
HAH...
I SEE...
THIS IS THE POWER OF LOVE...
I... GEEZ... FOR SOME-THING LIKE THAT...
COUGH

I SEE...
DAMN..

I REALLY SHOULDN'T HAVE STOPPED SMOKING...

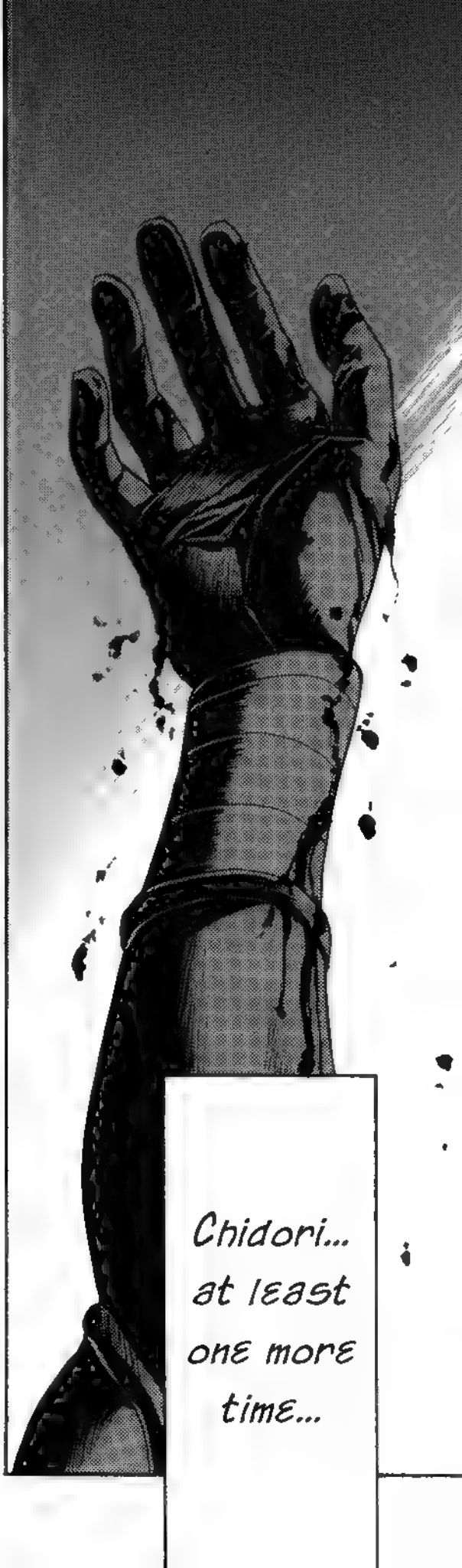
SAN CARLOS... ER, WAIT... NIKELO?
OR GRANADA...

GRA-NADA...
NIKE-LO...

SAN CARLOS,

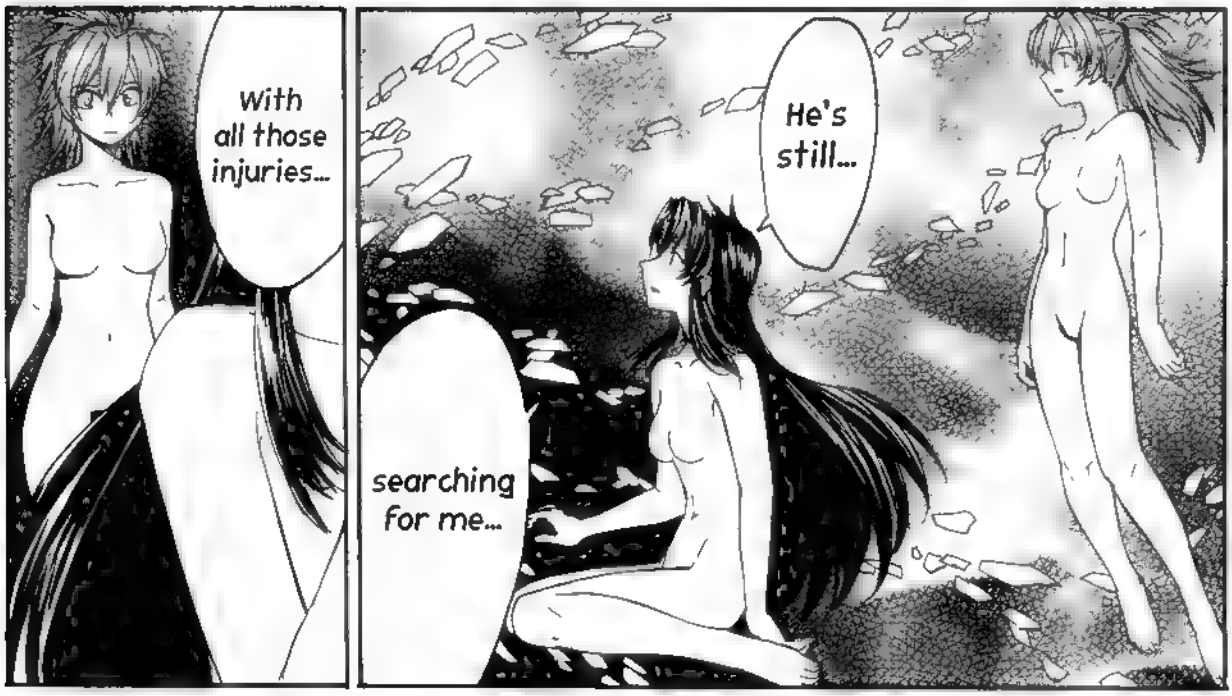
CHI-
DORI...
SOU-
SUKE!!
...CHI-
DORI...
First
Aid
kit!!
Medic!!
I
want...
to
meet
you.
Be
at my
side.
Hit
my back
and say
some-
thing...

He...
Who is it?


Chidori... at least one more time...

I was with "him" in the other dimension.
"Him"...
...I see, you mean "him"...
I met him...
but we parted,
because I died.
Sadly...
I couldn't replace you.

Where is he...?
Nam-sac,
he is badly hurt.


With all those injuries...
He's still...
searching for me...

If you meet him again...
please forgive him, and hold him.
I... can't promise that...
I have to go now.
The voices are calling.

KNOCK KNOCK
EXCUSE ME.

HUH...
Dream... I was seeing some kind of dream.

I WAS JUST NAPPING A LITTLE.
WERE YOU SLEEPING?
OPEN

I can't remember what it was about... as usual.
...IT MUST HAVE BEEN A SAD DREAM.
HUH...?
Why...
CLINK
YES, A SAD DREAM.
TEARS ...?
...NOT JUST FOR ME, BUT FOR EVERYONE.
...I wonder why I can't be near him...?

Sou-
suke...

DON'T CRY, IT'S FINE...
UU...
UUUU UUU...
I'LL PROTECT YOU.

13 YEARS AGO

I, Andrei Kalinin, met *him* for the first time at the freezing Arctic sea.

.... SOU-SUKE...

ゴオオォオオ…

PLEASE SAVE THE CHILD...

CAPTAIN!! SURVIVOR FOUND!!

ARE YOU OKAY?

THE CHILD FIRST...
MOM...
COME OVER HERE...
IT'S JAPANESE, LET ME HANDLE IT.
CAPTAIN, WHAT DID...?
UNDER-STOOD. I'VE COME TO HELP YOU.
HEY BOY, DON'T WORRY.
COME WITH ME TO A WARM PLACE.
I'M ANDREI KALININ.

MOM...
NOD
DON'T CRY,
LIVE.
CAPTAIN, THIS SOUND...
!!
SNAP
SNAP SNAP
CRACK
CRACK
CRACK
CRACK
HURRY!!
CRACK

WHAA AAA!!!
WAA AH!
AHH HH
AHH HHHH HHH AH HH!
AHH HHH!

ゴホゴホ

FIGHT ON...!!

CAPTAIN, IT'S DAN-GEROUS!
HURRY!!

SOVIET SUB K-244
I SHOULD HAVE DIED...

DAMN, DAMN!!
STOP IT!! IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT!!
I COULDN'T SAVE THE MOTHER...
IT'S MY FAULT.
I'm the one at fault... for making that decision.

HOW IS HE?
But for the child...
He has a family back home...
That mother had injuries to her organs... it would have been difficult to save her even if we rescued her.
JUST MINOR FROSTBITE. HE IS STABLE AND SLEEPING.
Sagara Sousuke
THESE ARE ALL THE POSSESSIONS.
PROBABLY JAPANESE.
WHERE IS HE FROM?

SAGARA SOUSUKE, HUH.
I tried to speak with Sagara Sousuke from the next day until we returned to base.
IT'S SAFE HERE, DON'T WORRY.

I'LL DEFINITELY BRING YOU BACK HOME, SO DON'T WORRY.
CLOSE
Three days had passed without a word.
SQUEEZE

...ARE YOU OKAY?
OOOOPS!!
HAHAHA... I SLIP-PED...
DID SHE DIE?
YEAH, WHAT ABOUT YOU?
WHERE IS MOM?

I'M GOING TO DIE TOO.
ポロポロ
MOM...
SHE IS LONELY BY HERSELF...

I couldn't say it.
GRIP
I was the one that abandoned his "mother."
Probably from my own guilt,
I tried to increase the time spent with this boy as much as possible.
As the two of us continued our conversations,
it had somehow turned into trust.

He started to call me "uncle An,"
and I would call him "Sousuke-kun."
ONE WEEK LATER
CAPTAIN, WE'RE THE KGB.
YEAH, I'LL LET YOU HANDLE THE REST.
WILL YOU TAKE THAT TEDDY WITH YOU?
YEAH, ALWAYS.

I'M GOING TO PROTECT IT.
SQUEEZE

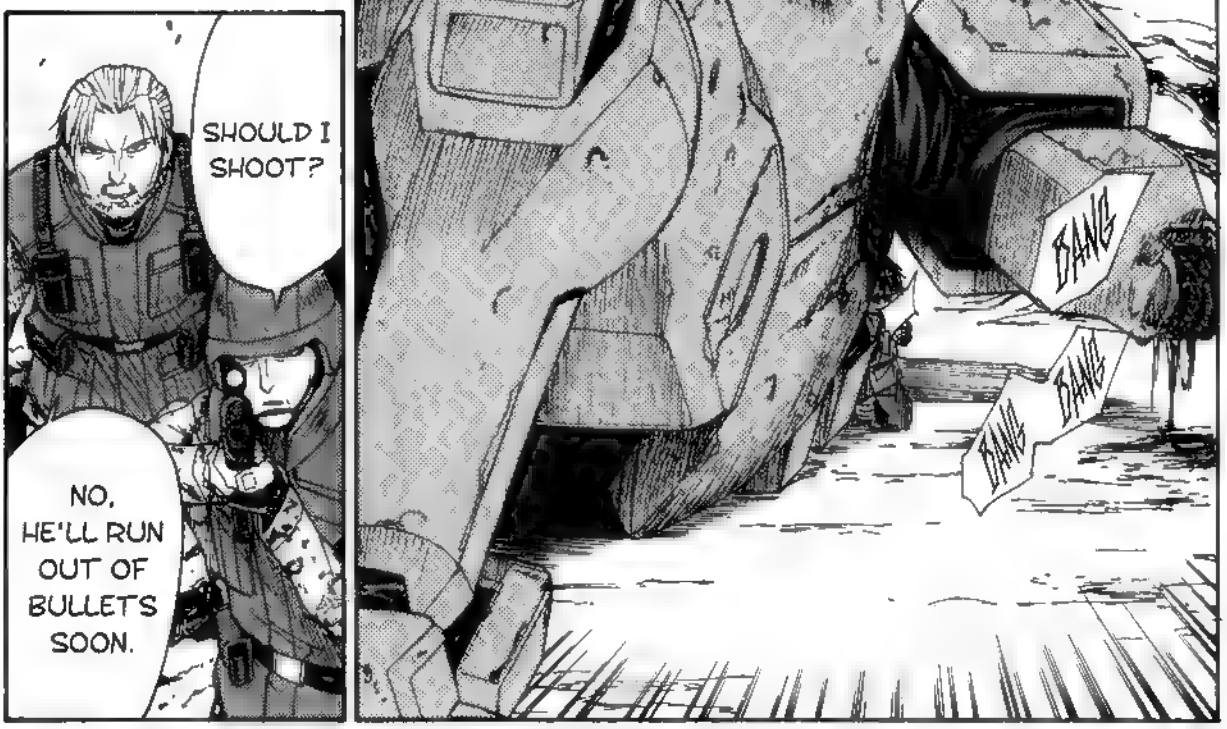
GOOD LUCK, SOU-SUKE-KUN.
I SEE...
I can imagine...
He grew up with a lot of love from his parents.

Sagara Sousuke was a really kind child.

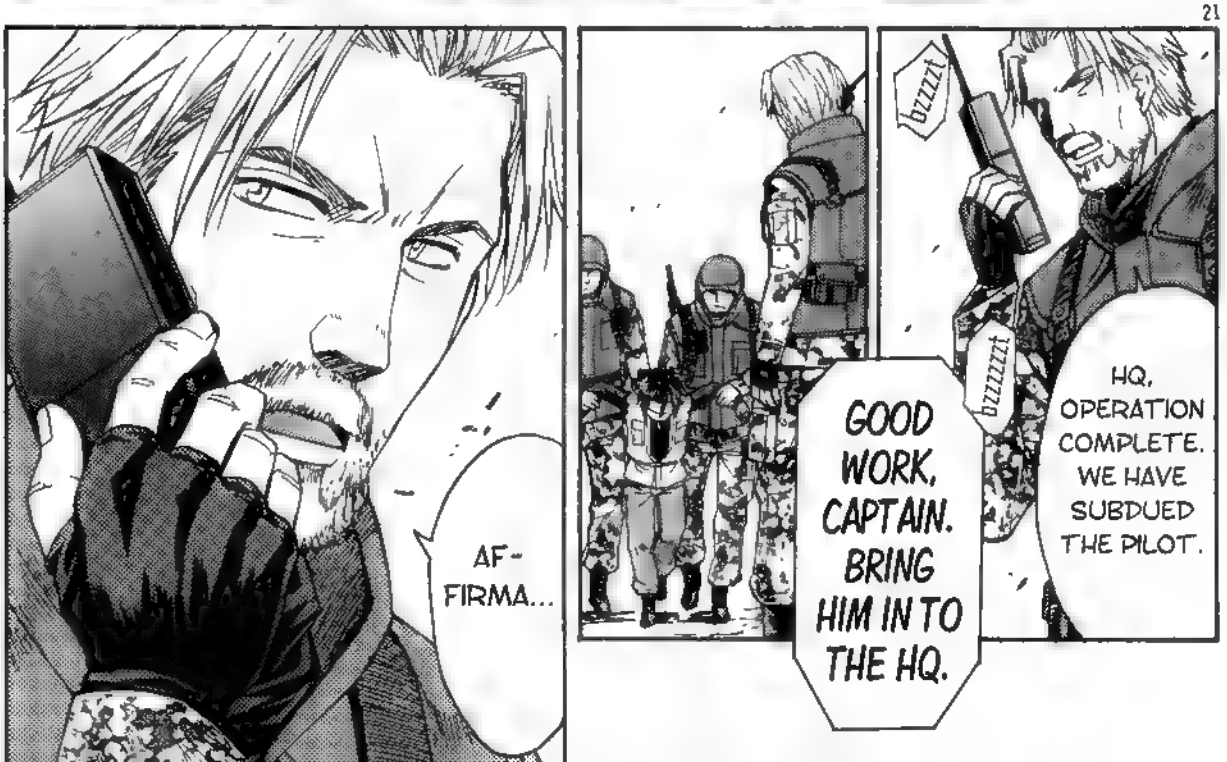
His whereabouts were unknown after that day.

ドドドオオ…
SIX YEARS LATER, IN AFGHANI-STAN
I was commanding an A.S. division against the guerillas.

BANG
LIVENJ, THAT'S IT. ENEMY IS DOWN.
HE WAS A TOUGH ONE.
I NEVER IMAGINED THAT THEY WOULD TROUBLE US THIS MUCH
During this battle, we lost two A.S. units.
Guerillas had increased their resistance by using the A.S. they stole from us.
AGAINST OUR REGULAR A.S. UNITS.
I WONDER WHO IS PILOTING IT


SHOULD I SHOOT?
NO, HE'LL RUN OUT OF BULLETS SOON.
BANG
BANG
BANG

AFFIR-MATIVE!
OKAY, BRING DOWN THE ENEMY.
click
click


AF-FIRMA...
GOOD WORK, CAPTAIN. BRING HIM IN TO THE HQ.
bzzzzt
bzzzzzt
HQ, OPERATION COMPLETE. WE HAVE SUBDUED THE PILOT.

WHAT'S WRONG, CAPTAIN? IS THERE A PROBLEM?

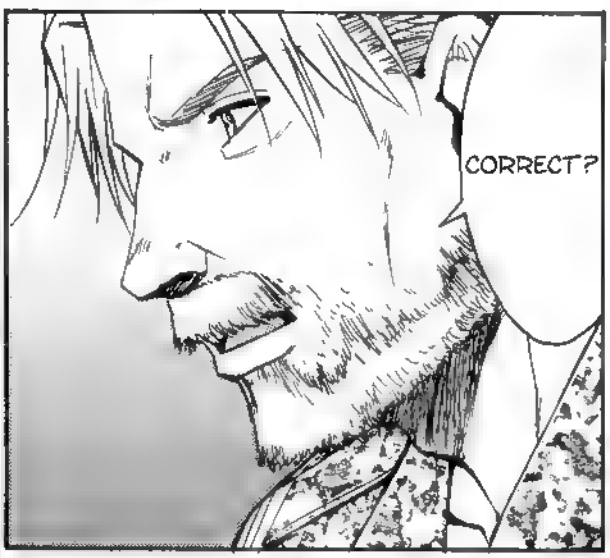
...NO... IT'S FINE.

ADAKHSHAN
PANJSHĪR
PLATEAU
BASE HQ
I'LL DO THE INTERROGATION. LEAVE ME ALONE WITH HIM.
AFFIRMATIVE.

SAGARA SOUSUKE.

I'M CAPTAIN ANDREI KALININ.
YOUR NAME IS?

MY COMRADES CALL ME KASHIM.
I THREW AWAY THAT NAME.


CORRECT?

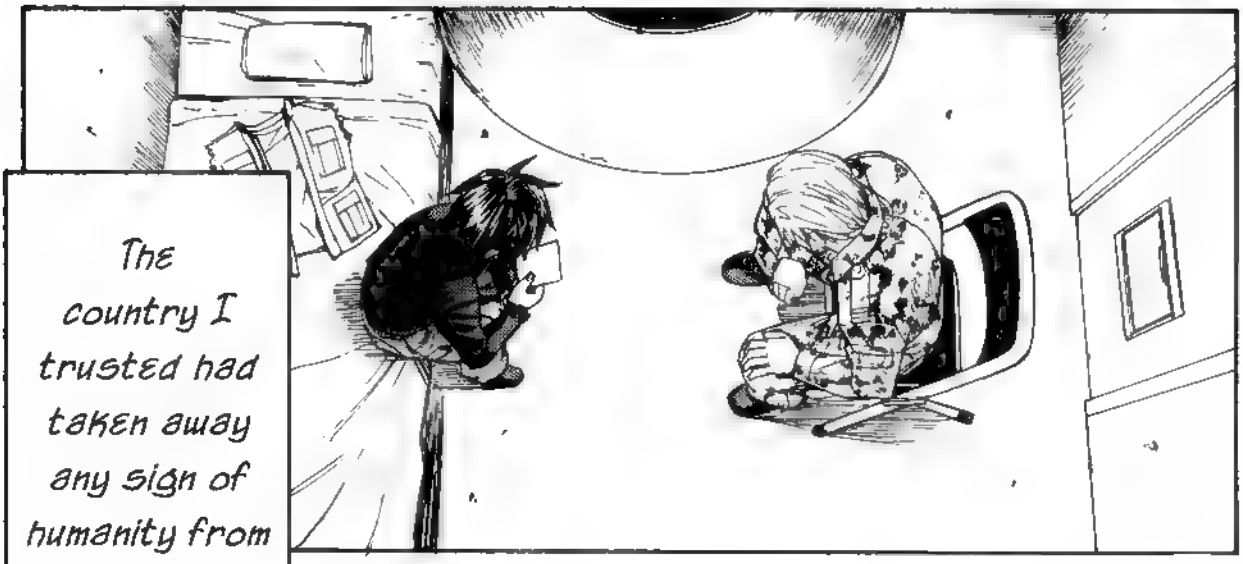
I HEARD A RUMOR THAT THE KGB
HAS A FACILITY CALLED "NOZH" THAT TRAINS CHILDREN INTO ASSASSINS.
YOU WERE BROUGHT UP IN THIS "NOZH"
AND JOINED THE GUERILLAS TO ASSASSINATE GENERAL AMAJID.
.....
THE DIVISION UNDER GENERAL AMAJID CALLED BADAKHSHAN'S TIGER ARE ONE OF THE STRONGEST AMONG THE AFGHANISTAN'S GUERILLAS.
HOWEVER, I HEAR THAT THEY ARE MERCIFUL TO PRISONERS.
YOU FAILED IN THE ASSASSINATION,
BUT THE GENERAL SAVED YOUR LIFE AND YOU JOINED UNDER HIM.
CORRECT?

STOP IT. YOU'LL BE ACCUSED OF TREASON.
THERE IS SOMETHING WRONG WITH THIS COUNTRY, THIS WAR...
CAPTAIN... A CHILD LIKE THAT...
CLOSE
There is definitely something wrong with this war...
Enough to turn innocent children into heartless killers...

Sousuke was pardoned from capital punishment due to the fact that he was a child, and was to be sent to a war orphanage.
The Guerilla resistance had lost its impact with the loss of Sagara Sousuke and the AS.
Until then, I tried to meet with him as much as possible.
GACHA
I HAVE A SUGGES-TION FOR YOU.
GACHA
He didn't have any memory of me, but that didn't matter.
WOULD YOU LIKE TO BECOME MY CHILD?

SHE IS PRETTY...
I HAVE A HOME IN LENIN-GRAD.
MY WIFE HAS ALSO AGREED.
NEXT YEAR, A CHILD WILL BE BORN. LET'S LIVE TOGETHER AS THE FOUR OF US.
THERE ARE LOTS OF FUN STUFF LIKE MUSIC, BOOKS AND MOVIES.
I...

I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU ARE SAYING.
WHAT ELSE IS THERE BESIDES BATTLE AND DEATH?
WHY DO YOU SAY SOMETHING LIKE THIS INSTEAD OF KILLING ME?

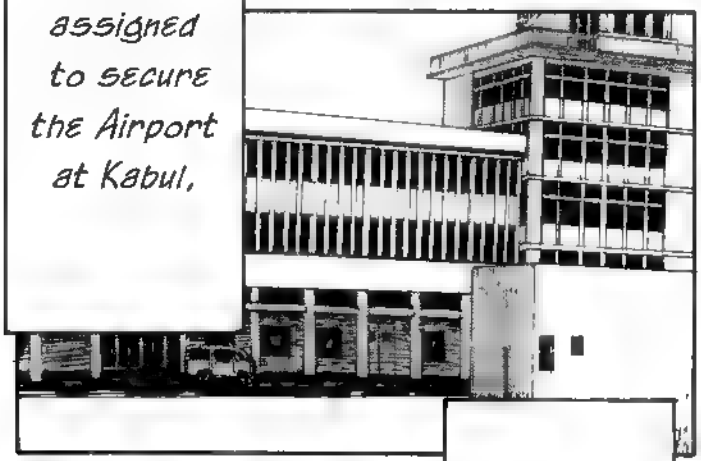


The country I trusted had taken away any sign of humanity from this boy.

that kind eye I saw six years ago.
LOOK SOUSUKE, THE BABY IS GOING WELL, ALSO.
But I had not forgotten,
...WHY DO YOU WANT TO SHOW ME SOME-THING LIKE THAT?
ANOTHER LETTER FROM IRINA.
OH, YES...
His heart will probably recover over time.
I SEE...
BECAUSE IRINA AND I WANT YOU TO SEE IT.

The Guerillas decided to agree on a temporary cease-fire with the government.

I was assigned to secure the Airport at Kabul,



where the negotiation took place.

I promised myself that I would guide him in the right direction.

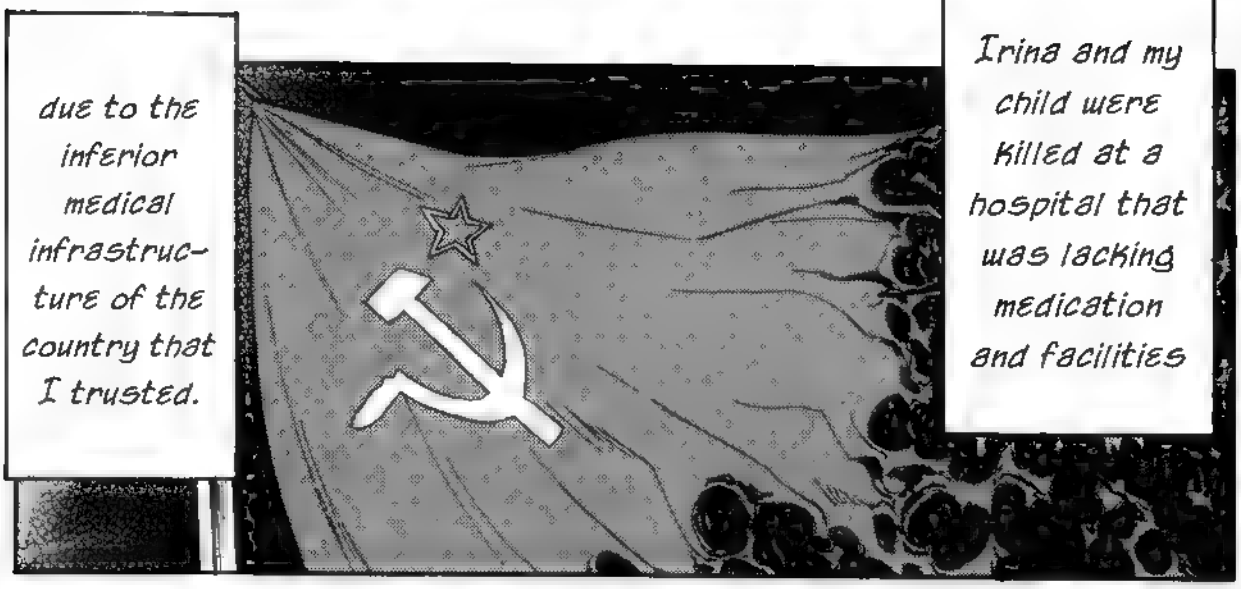
Three months later, severe winter hit Afghanistan.

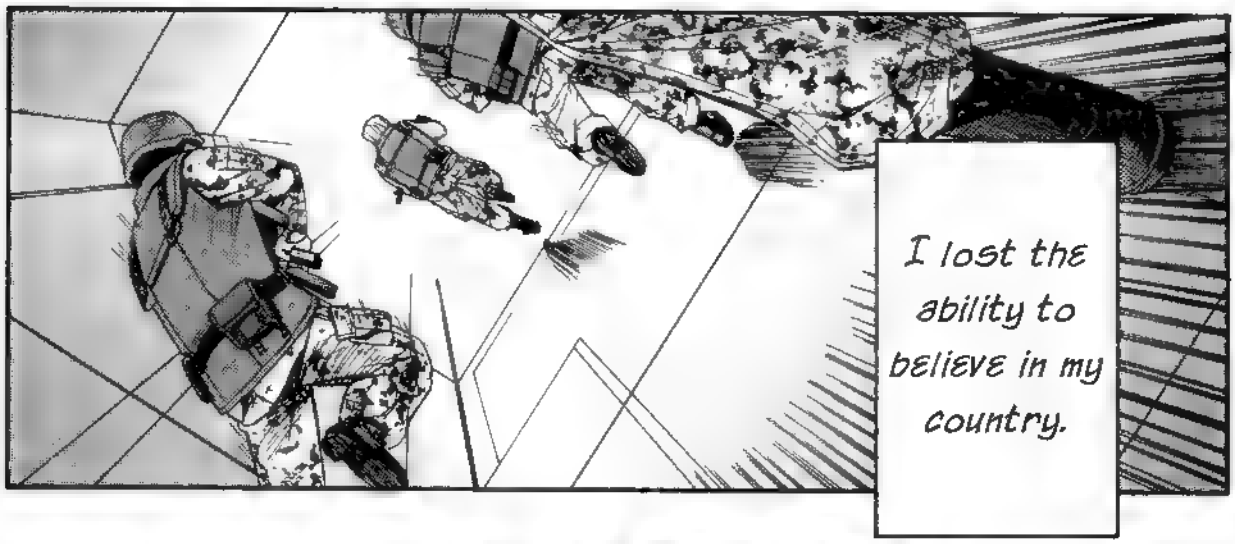
W... WHAT?
YOUR WIFE PASSED AWAY.
UNFOR-TUNATELY, THE CHILD AS WELL.

...AFFIR-MATIVE.
Irina died due to a medical accident by a drunk doctor.

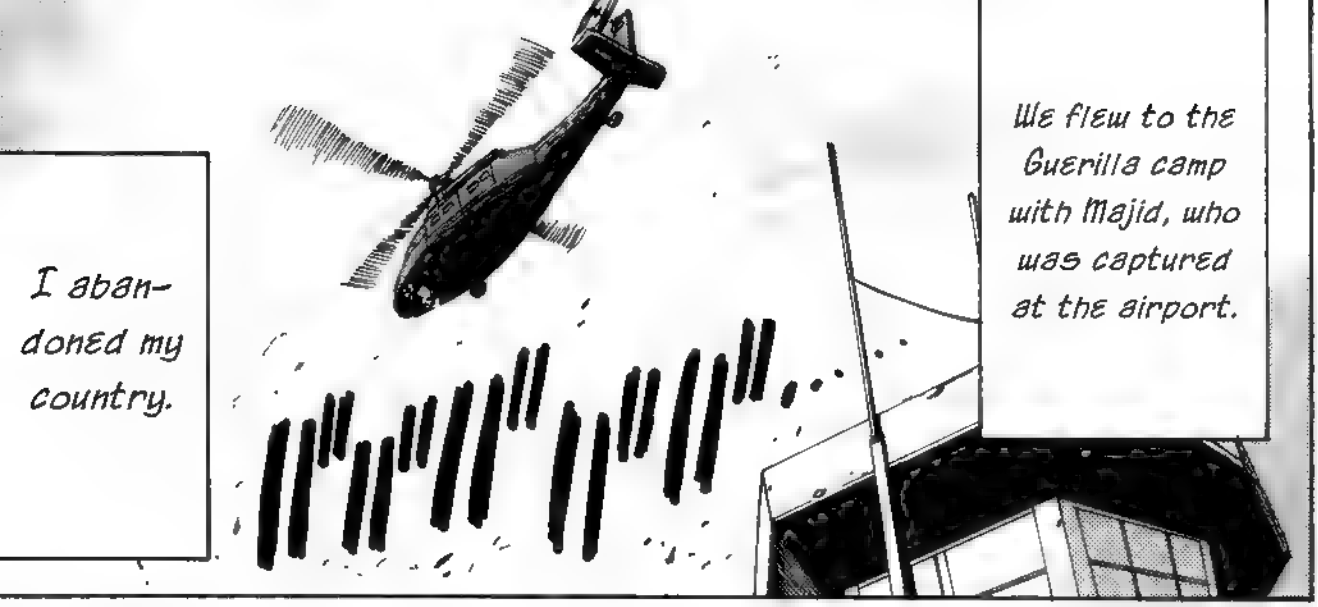
CAPTAIN!! THERE IS AN UPRISING BY THE GUERILLAS IN THE CITY!!
NO...
WOULD YOU LIKE ME TO TAKE OVER THE COM-MAND?

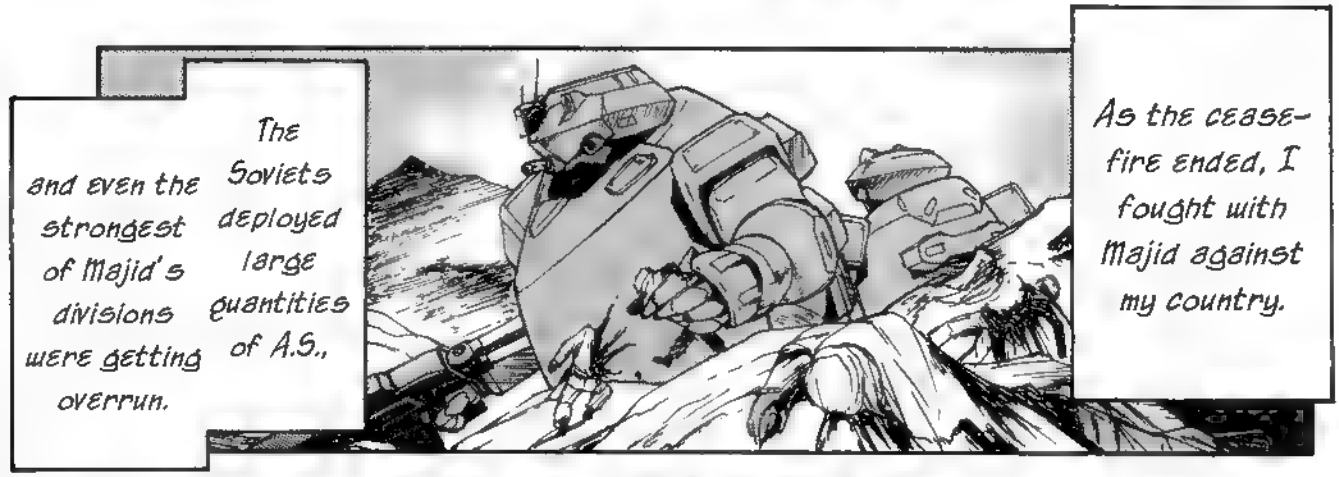
SHOOT HIM ON SIGHT!!
THERE IS AN UPRISING INSTIGATED BY MAJID!!


due to the inferior medical infrastructure of the country that I trusted.
Irina and my child were killed at a hospital that was lacking medication and facilities


I lost the ability to believe in my country.

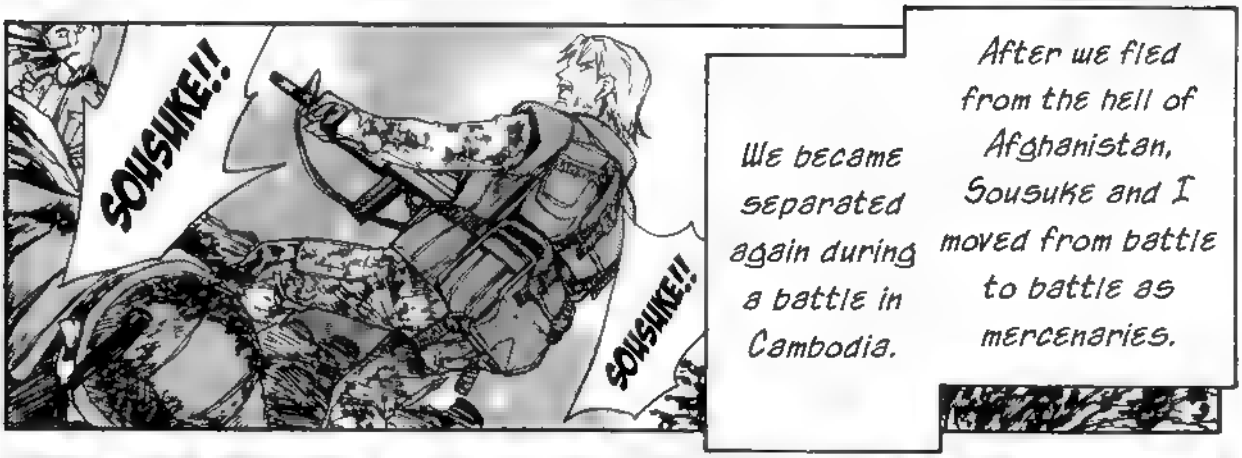
LET'S GO, SOUSUKE.
CLICK
CAPTAIN, THAT'S NOT...
SLAM


I aban-
doned my
country.
We flew to the
Guerilla camp
with Majid, who
was captured
at the airport.


and even the
strongest
of Majid's
divisions
were getting
overrun.
The
Soviets
deployed
large
quantities
of A.S.,
As the cease-
fire ended, I
fought with
Majid against
my country.

I
SEE...
I didn't
tell him
about
Irina's
death.
I'M SORRY,
BUT I'LL
DIE FIGHT-
ING HERE.
WHAT'S
WRONG,
SOUSUKE?

Starting from that day,
I taught Sousuke everything I knew about how to survive on the battlefield.


SOUSUKE!!
SOUSUKE!!
After we fled from the hell of Afghanistan, Sousuke and I moved from battle to battle as mercenaries.
We became separated again during a battle in Cambodia.

It was the day after I had assigned the Kanji for his name, Sagara Sousuke.
相良宗介

LIEUTENANT, IS THERE A PROBLEM?
NO...
HOW IS SERGEANT SAGARA?
WRITTEN APOLOGIES FOR THIS MONTH...

Sousuke and I seem to have a "link" that we can't cut.
He was picked up by Mithril one year after I joined.
I SEE.
THOUGH... I THINK HIS EXPRESSION HAS SOFTENED...

I was hoping that this would awaken some human feelings in him, but...
どさーっ!!
Sousuke was assigned a duty that he was unsuited for,
undercover operative as a normal high school student at a Japanese high school.
TOKYO - JINDAI HIGH
NOT AGAIN...
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING!?
ズドドド

HE'S RUN-NING AWAY!!
AHH!!
おお――――!!!
HUH?
VRRRR
VRRRR
IF YOU CONTINUE THESE MISTAKES, I'LL HAVE TO BRING IN A REPLACEMENT.
HEY!! COME OUT!!
NO, EVERY-THING IS GOING FINE.
SOUNDS NOISY, IS THERE A PROB-LEM?
DON'T WORRY, IT'S NOT A PROBLEM.

TO BE CONTINUED

MISSION 8

Sousuke's mental rehab is finally over. From next volume, things will really pick up. (Though he's nearly dead!... Sort of) It's unfortunate that the two main stars for this long story arc, Nami and Savage have both passed on. It's a real shock that Savage won't show up anymore. It's such a shock that I might replace the body of the new A.S. for Sousuke with that Savage again.

Last short story arc was about the meeting of Sousuke and Kalinin, called "Boy meets guy". I now realized that what really distinguishes Kalinin is actually his beard. Without it, it's hard to tell who he is.

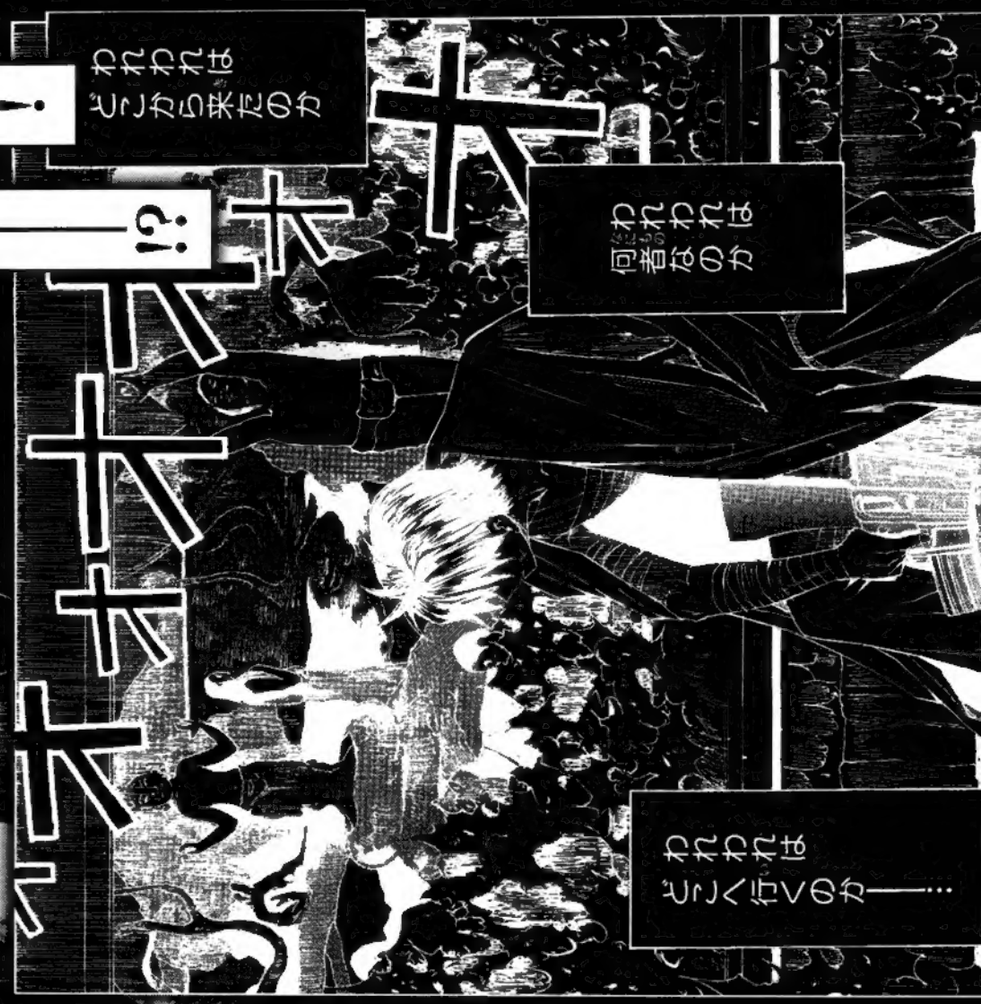
Anyway, with that, we will start a new story arc from the next volume. Tessa will be the main heroine so please look forward to it!!

次巻予告

ブラッドレイヴン 09

『ブラッド・アイ・デイ』編突入！

〈ミスリル〉に異状アリ――!?



DOES THE HERO COME BACK?

Kadokawa Comics Dragon Jr.

角川コミックス ドラゴンJr.

フルメタル・パニック！Σ（シグマ）8

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